

PATENT APPLICATION
Attorney Docket: 2776 (203-3096PCTUS)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Russell Heinrich et al. Examiner: Katherine Marie Dowe
Serial No.: 10/510,940 Group: Art Unit 3734
Filed: October 8, 2004 Dated: June 10, 2010
For: SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS INCLUDING MEMS DEVICES

Mail Stop: **RCE**
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Filed Via EFS-Web
Confirmation No.: 7181

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT "E"

Dear Madam:

In response to the Final Office Action that was mailed on April 27, 2010, and in view of the Request for Continued Examination submitted herewith, please consider the following prior to examination of the above-identified application on the merits:

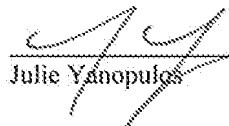
Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this response.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 18 of this response.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted on the date below with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, via electronic submission.

Dated: June 10, 2010


Julie Yanopulos